

CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) Apparatus ~~according to claim 10~~ for the post treatment of an ultrasonically welded seamed flexible imaging member belt to produce a smooth seam region comprising:

a lower support member having a smooth upper flat surface adapted to receive and support a seam region of a welded seamed flexible imaging member belt comprising thermoplastic polymer material having a predetermined glass transition temperature;

wherein the ~~heatable member is a~~ an upper heatable strip having a smooth lower heatable flat surface, the lower heatable flat surface of the heatable strip having a profile which is parallel to the smooth flat surface of the support member, the lower heatable flat surface comprising a low surface energy or adhesive material, the strip aligned for centering over the seam region, and wherein the strip has a width of between about 6 mm and about 30 mm; and

a rotatable compression wheel located so as to contact the upper heatable strip to compress the strip against the seam region;

wherein the lower support member and the upper heatable strip are located so as to directly contact the flexible imaging member belt; and

wherein the rotatable compression wheel moves transversely across the seam region.

12. (Cancelled) Apparatus according to **claim 11** wherein a rotatable compression wheel contacts the strip to compress the strip against the seam.

13. (Cancelled).
14. (Cancelled).
15. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to ~~claim 10~~ for the post treatment of an ultrasonically welded seamed flexible imaging member belt to produce a smooth seam region comprising:
- a lower support member having a smooth upper flat surface adapted to receive and support a seam region of a welded seamed flexible imaging member belt comprising thermoplastic polymer material having a predetermined glass transition temperature; and
- an upper wherein the heatable member is a rotatable compression wheel having a smooth lower heatable flat surface, the wheel having a profile which is parallel to the flat surface of the support member, wherein the heatable flat surface comprises a low surface energy or adhesive material,
- wherein the lower support member and the upper heatable rotatable compression wheel are located so as to directly contact the flexible imaging member belt
- and wherein the upper heatable rotatable compression wheel moves transversely across the seam region.
16. (Original) Apparatus according to **claim 15** wherein the rotatable compression heating wheel surface comprises a low surface energy or adhesive material.
17. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 11** wherein the strip is a metal or a plastic.
18. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 11** wherein the strip is an electrically resistive material or a composite device.

19. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 18** wherein the strip comprises a supporting member containing imbedded resistance wires spaced to ensure uniform heating along the length of the strip.

20. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 11** wherein the strip raises the temperature of the seam area from about 2°C to 25°C above the glass transition temperature (T_g), but below the melting temperature, of the thermoplastic polymer material in at least the charge transport layer of the imaging member belt.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to **claim 12 11** wherein the rotatable compression wheel comprises a hard plastic, metal, or composite material.

23. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to **claim 12 11** wherein the rotatable compression wheel is a metal wheel with a smooth polished surface.

24. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to **claim 12 11** wherein a rotatable compression wheel may be moved manually or automatically.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to **claim 10 11** wherein the low surface energy or adhesive material comprises Teflon, fluoro-hydrocarbon polymer, silicone, polyimide, and the like.

27. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to **claim 16** wherein the low surface energy or adhesive material is a thin Teflon coating.